



09/967,316

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	MUSOLF ET AL.	Examiner:	T. PATEL
Serial No.:	09/967,316	Group Art Unit:	2839
Filed:	SEPTEMBER 28, 2001	Docket No.:	2316.1605US01
Title:	FRONT ACCESS DSX ASSEMBLY		

#7 / RESPONSE
D. EVANS
5.9.03

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 5, 2003.

By:
Name:

[Signature]
[Signature]

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Dear Sir:

This response is in reply to the Office Action of February 4, 2003. Claims 1-28 are pending in this application. Claims 25-28 have been allowed. Claims 17-24 were objected to, and claims 1-16 were rejected. Applicants respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of claims 1-16.

I. Drawings

In the Office Action of February 4, 2003, the Examiner required that Figure 1 be amended to include a legend --Prior Art--. In response, attached hereto is amended version of Fig. 1 including the --Prior Art-- legend.

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II. Claims 1-8

At section 4 of the Office Action of February 4, 2003, claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Henneberger et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,116,961). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 relates to a jack module having both a cross-connect array and an IN/OUT array located at the front of the jack module. A circuit board is provided for electrically connecting the cross-connect array and the IN/OUT array to a jack mount. The circuit board includes a first portion located behind the jack mount, a second portion located behind the cross-connect array and a third portion located behind the IN/OUT array.

It is submitted that the invention of claim 1 is not taught or suggested by the '961 patent. All of the modules of the '961 patent include cross-connect arrays located at the fronts of the modules, and IN/OUT arrays located at the backs of the modules. Nowhere does the '961 patent teach or suggest a module having an IN/OUT array and a cross-connect array that are both accessible from the front of the module. Further, the '961 patent does not teach or suggest a module having a circuit board with a first portion behind a jack mount, a second portion behind a cross-connect array and a third portion behind an IN/OUT array. The circuit boards disclosed in the '961 patent are always positioned in front of their corresponding IN/OUT array.

For at least the above identified reasons, it is submitted that claim 1 is not anticipated by the '961 patent, and is in immediate condition for allowance. Claims 2-8 depend upon and further limit allowable claim 1. Therefore, for at least the same reasons specified with respect to claim 1, it is submitted that these dependent claims are also in immediate connection for allowance.

III. Claims 9-16

Claim 9 relates to a telecommunications device including a chassis having a front side, a plurality of jacks mounted in the chassis, cross-connect termination structures located at the front side of chassis, and IN/OUT termination structures also located at the front side of the chassis. The device also includes a circuit board including a first portion located behind the jacks, a second portion located behind the cross-connect termination structures and a third portion located behind the IN/OUT termination structures.

The '961 patent fails to disclose a chassis having both cross-connect termination structures and IN/OUT termination structures located at the front side of the chassis. In contrast, all of the disclosed embodiments of the '961 patent have cross-connect termination structures located at the front of the chassis, and IN/OUT termination structures located at the backside of the chassis. Further, while the '961 patent does disclose circuit boards that electrically connect to the IN/OUT termination structures, the circuit boards are always positioned in front of the corresponding IN/OUT termination structures.

For at least the above-identified reasons, it is submitted that claim 9 is in immediate in condition for allowance. Moreover, claims 10-16 depend upon and further limit allowable claim 9. Therefore, for at least the same reasons specified with respect to claim 9, it is submitted that these dependent claims are also in immediate condition for allowance.

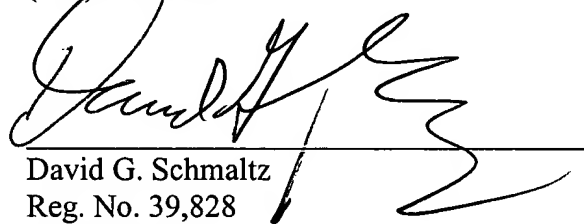
IV. Summary

In view of the above remarks, it is submitted that claims 1-16 are in immediate condition for allowance and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. Please direct any inquiries concerning this application to the undersigned attorney at 612.336.4617.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: 5/5/03



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MUSOLF ET AL. Examiner: T. PATEL
Serial No.: 09/967,316 Group Art Unit: 2839
Filed: SEPTEMBER 28, 2001 Docket: 2316.1605US01
Confirmation No.: 4270
Due Date: MAY 4, 2003 (SUNDAY)
Title: FRONT ACCESS DSX ASSEMBLY

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By: *Kristine A. Welch*Name: *Kristine A. Welch*

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Response
- ☒ Other: Proposed Changes to the Drawings and copy Figure 1 with changes marked in red
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
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612.332.5300

By: *David G. Schmaltz*

Name: David G. Schmaltz

Reg. No.: 39,828

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D. Evans
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By:
Name:

Robert A. Wallace
R. A. Wallace

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE DRAWINGS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



Dear Sir:

Applicants propose to amend Figure 1 as shown in red on the attached copy. With the Examiner's approval, the changes will be made to the formal drawings in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
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